

Express Mail Label No. EV 8259011183 US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No.: 14531.124

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Phillip Y. Goldman

Serial No.: 09/993,795

Conf No.: 8854

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: INTERRUPTING THE OUTPUT OF MEDIA
CONTENT IN RESPONSE TO AN EVENT

Examiner: Sumaiya A. Chowdhury

Customer No. 047973

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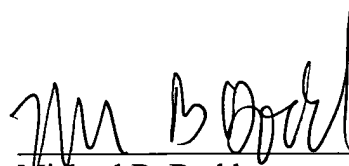
DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, Michael B. Dodd, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney representing Microsoft Corporation for the above-identified patent application, which is assigned to Microsoft Corporation.
2. I received a disclosure packet from Phillip Y. Goldman, describing and showing conception of the technology claimed in the above-identified application.
3. I took oral disclosure on the invention on August 16, 2001.
4. I diligently worked on preparing the application for filing after the disclosure meeting and until the application was filed on November 16, 2001.

5. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated this 17th day of February 2006.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Dodd", written over a horizontal line.

Michael B. Dodd
Attorney Applicant

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Express Mail Label No. EV 823901183 US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No.: 14531.124

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In application of

Phillip Y. Goldman

Serial No.: 09/993,795

Conf No.: 8854

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: INTERRUPTING THE OUTPUT OF MEDIA
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DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, Dana Rao, declare as follows:

1. I am an in-house attorney with responsibilities over patent prosecution and development for Microsoft Corporation, the assignee of the above-identified patent application.
2. I received a disclosure packet from Phillip Y. Goldman, describing and showing conception of the technology claimed in the above-identified application.
3. Phillip Y. Goldman, the named inventor, is now deceased and therefore unavailable.
4. Phillip Y. Goldman, conceived the claimed invention, as shown in the attached disclosure packet, as early as May 5, 2001.

4. Attached as Exhibit A is a copy of a disclosure packet, entitled "Disclosure Packet", dated May 5, 2001, and authored by Phillip Y. Goldman. The Disclosure Packet includes descriptions of embodiments relating to the claimed methods and systems for automatically executing an interruption operation on media content in response to events in accordance with the invention.

5. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated this 17 day of February 2006.



Dana Rao
Attorney for Applicant



Disclosure Packet

MS#: 177845.1

Title: Interruption Management System for Media Playback

Microsoft Team: Dana Rao, Jennifer Stuessy, Tuan Ngo

Inventors: Phil Goldman

Dev Group:

Mapping to Portfolio Plan:

Upon receiving an interruption, a DVR can pause video (recorded or live) and display the cause of the interruption to the user (e.g., incoming phone call). When the interruption is handled, the DVR can resume the video.

Technology: Hardware Specific Software

File by Date: 12/21/2001

Underlying Facts:

- Date of Conception – 05/05/2001
- Reduced to Practice – Not Yet
- Publicly Disclosed? – Not Yet

Foreign Filing Intentions: do or do not intend to pursue

Attachments:



DVR-Pause-Extension.doc (48 KB...

Preferred OC Atty: Workman, Nydegger & Seeley

Microsoft Patent Predisclosure Document

Title of Invention: Interruption Management System for Media Playback

Date: 5 May 2001

Document Author(s): Phil Goldman

Prior Disclosure

[Has there been any disclosure of the invention outside of Microsoft? If so, please identify the party (or parties) to whom disclosed, as well as the date and circumstances under which the disclosure was made (signed/unsigned non-disclosure agreement, etc.). Disclosure may include such things as an offer for sale, a demonstration, or a publication describing a novel aspect of the invention.]

No.

Introduction

[Please provide a high level description of the invention, including the names of the people who contributed to the invention.]

When important interruptions come into a DVR or other computing device it can pause the video (recorded or live) and display the cause of the interruption to the user. When the interruption is handled it can resume the video.

Strategic Importance of Invention:

[Please provide reasons why you think patent protection for this invention is important to Microsoft. Factors to consider include (1) is it core technology; (2) is it a feature that gives Microsoft a competitive advantage; (3) is it a feature that our competitors would want to copy; (4) does it include new APIs, file formats, network protocols, data schema or other components relating to product interoperability (5) is it related to a standard. Please include who you consider the most likely competitors and/or competitive products for this technology.]

1. There will be a growing number of general purpose DVR systems, like Ultimate TV. It will be important to manage video w.r.t to the other features. This may grow even more quickly if the systems are platform-based and allow for a development community.
2. The scenarios we can generate right now seem very useful, given our WebTV and now UltimateTV experience.
3. This builds off of both our own core patents, like the LineShare patent, and also off of the Intellivision patents that we recently purchased. I cc'ed Jon so that he can see that we're building additional IP off of this purchase of fundamental DVR IP.

Motivation for the Invention:

[Describe (1) the problem addressed by the invention (e.g., limitations of prior products of Microsoft, or others), and (2) your solution to the problem (including what "new" things your invention does and a high-level description of how it does them).]

See above.

Description of the Invention:

[Describe your proposed implementation of the invention, including the architecture and design details of the implementation. The design details should include a description of the component parts of, and individual operations performed by, your implementation. The use of a specific example, showing how the invention solves the problem being addressed, can be particularly helpful. You should also mention whether you have thought of any other implementations, or applications of, your invention. In most cases, 1-2 pages of description should be adequate to start the patent application process, although a more detailed description may greatly enhance the efficiency of the process.]

When important interruptions come into a DVR or other computing device it can pause the video (recorded or live) and display the cause of the interruption to the user. When the interruption is handled it can resume the video.

The invention is a general purpose interruption engine, which can be implemented in hardware, software, or a combination of both. The system can be run completely within a computing device, which includes a STB or TV running broadcast video, a PC showing streaming video, or a mobile device playing the media from

from a CD or DVD. It is not limited to video, but can include audio, animation, or any other streamed media. The engine can be implemented purely on the device, or it can be shared between a server and a client device (to be detailed in patent application).

The engine core includes a set of rules that may or may include either a hard-coded or an extensible policy for prioritization and exceptions, and set of rules to enforce the policy. The rules may be scripted, for example, with a mechanism to import new rules and to activate and deactivate rules. A server or the current media stream may provide additional rules as well.

The engine provides an input mechanism where the interrupt sources can inform the engine that an interrupt has occurred. The input mechanism can include a method for a source to inform the engine about the priority of the interrupt, the time sensitivity of the interrupt, a timeout for when the interrupt is no longer interesting, and other information feeding the policy decisions of the engine.

The engine also includes a registration mechanism where UI handlers can register, and to provide information about which sources they are interested in, especially which interrupts should be paused, for how long, and whether the user can override the pause or not based on either explicit or learned user preferences. The handlers are then notified about the interrupt sources of interest when interrupts occur.

This is a general purpose mechanism, but it has certain specific useful applications. Here are a few examples:

- When a phone call comes into your house the DVR can monitor the line and automatically pause. You can take the call via a speakerphone in the DVR or even just over a standard phone set. When the DVR sees the phone go back on hook it can resume the video.
- When a laptop is playing a CD and an instant message or urgent e-mail comes in the laptop can pause the video, and show the message. When the user dismisses the window the video is resumed.
- A DVR could be built with a motion detector or a connection to personal transmitter, so that when the user leaves the room the video is automatically paused, and then resumes when the user returns. (In fact, it's wacky but this technique could be used to have the video follow the user from screen to screen around the home too).

Diagrams and Flow Charts:

[To support the description provided above, please include: (a) at least one block diagram showing the architecture of the system that implements your invention, and (b) at least one diagram illustrating the primary steps performed by your invention.]

[click here and type]

Additional Information:

- *List the names of any people who contributed to the invention.*

[click here and type]

- *List any earlier, current or anticipated MS products that may use your invention:*

[click here and type]

- *List and attach (or provide pointers to) any documents that provide additional information about your invention or the product to which it relates, including specifications, journal articles, slide presentations, test/performance results, etc.]*

[click here and type]

- *List any other sources that would provide helpful background information or illustrate prior work of others in this area (including, e.g., journal articles, text books, product literature, products, and specifications):*

[click here and type]